

S. Proulx
Serial No. 09/913,977
Amendment

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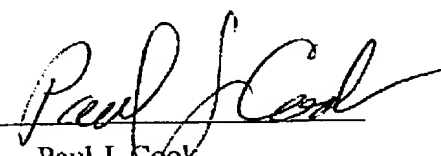
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to specify that the filter cartridge is free of an open volume having a height greater than about 1 inch upstream of the depth filter. In addition, the claims have been amended to specify the maximum height of spacers (when used) wherein the depth filter is 0.12 inch. As set forth in the specification when these heights are exceeded, a slurry being filtered will separate into a particle component and a liquid component. Support for these limitations is found at page 13, lines 30, to page 14, line 3 and page 7, lines 10-11.

Claims 1-9 and 15-17 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim what applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been amended to recite the nature of the void volume. Support for the amended claim is found in the specification as set forth above and at page 4, lines 18-24 of applicants' specification. Accordingly, this ground of rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims define patentable subject matter and a Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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